

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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Raleigh, N. C.

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N. R. P. A.

EDITORIAL NOTES

*. Bertie county adopts the Ocala platform unanimously.

*. Politics are humming. Don't you hear them buzz? But what are you going to do about it?

*. Bro. W. B. Fulton, President of Chowan County Alliance, was elected delegate to the 17th of May conference for that county.

*. If New York holds the key to the situation, Wall street holds the key to New York, and the Shylocks hold the key to Wallstreet.

*. The Charlotte Observer had its laugh first. Mecklenburg County Alliance adopted the St. Louis and Ocala platforms unanimously.

*. Bro. J. M. Mewborne, Lecturer for the First district, will speak at Edenton on the 28th inst. All that country should turn out and hear him.

*. "The land of the free" is rapidly passing into the hands of the autocratic money power, while "the home of the brave" is being covered by its mott gages.

*. If the two old parties will not give the people an increase of 30 cents per capita of currency, when may we expect them to give us fifty dollars per capita increase? Will some of their editors answer!

*. The Hickory Mercury learns that the editor of the Newton Enterprise is so hot over the political situation that people have to sleep with their windows and doors open in that town. Vegetation is full grown there also.

*. Shame, where is thy blush? The nights are made hideous with howlings of the "pension howlers." Reader, if you would know how much honesty and sincerity is in all this ranting, read "the deadly parallel" in another place.

*. If the Democratic party, with 148 majority in the House, cannot pass the free silver bill, when will it get strong enough to abolish national banks and give the people the control of our finances? Will some of its editors answer?

*. We would like for some of the Democratic papers to name some of the "good bills" that have been passed by the House at Washington when they had a majority. If they will do that and get up a big list of them we will not complain any more.

*. We rise to ask why the secular papers in the State don't publish the parallel matter in our columns last issue? They were all anxious to use the other parallel matter that appeared in the Tarboro Southerner. Wonder if they haven't got enough of that?

*. The Kinston Free Press asks us to reply to some of its "calamity howling." If its editor will read an editorial headed "Humbugging the People," which was written before his paper came, he will find some food for thought. Also one headed "Importance of Free Silver."

*. Some time some people will learn that it will not do to organize the farmers, teach them to resent the

numerous wrongs that have been perpetrated upon them, and then when the pinch comes desert them, as Livingston, of Georgia, and a few others are trying to do. Cautious and conservative action must prevail. Policy is important. But the people will not be led into the toils as they have here before.

*. Our neighbor, the State Chronicle, thinks that the editorial, "How is this for Fairness?" in our last issue places it in a false position. This certainly was not our intention. We simply wished to show that when any other fertilizer company made goods that were below the guarantee the papers were not informed—no names were given. But when the Durham Fertilizer Company was in trouble the papers were informed of all the particulars and they published them under big headlines. As to who is to blame for this the reader can easily guess.

*. The politicians are having a great deal of trouble trying to decide who has a right to go into the primaries. One of them says: "No man is eligible unless he has always voted the straight Democratic ticket." Another says: "No one is eligible unless he is going to stand by not only what this convention does, but what every other one does that has the same kind of a label on it." Now simply enforce these absurd statements and no party would ever be able to gain a single vote. We thought that the great desire of every party was to gain votes and grow stronger. Away with such bosh! Any man has a right to go into the primaries who does so in good faith.

*. Wonder if the "good Democrats" who are so much opposed to the Alliancemen going into the primaries, will be good enough Democrats to stand by the action of the convention? Such men as Dr. Kingsbury, Joe Caldwell, Jude Carroll & Co. say that they will not stand by the action of the convention unless it writes the kind of a platform and nominates the kind of men they prefer. Then according to Chairman Smith's ruling, these men are read out and cannot go into the primaries. But since Chairman Smith has no authority to read anybody out of the primaries or right to question the motives of any citizen of the State, he can't keep these men out. We are so glad, for it would have been a pity to have lost them.

*. A brother writing from Salem wants to know if the platform as published in THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER is the correct copy of the St. Louis platform. It is. The resolution which was published in the first issue of this paper after the St. Louis platform was sent out by the associated press as a part of the platform was not in it. It has been published by reform papers as such, as well as in secular papers. But the committee on platform never put the resolution in it. Several others have been published as part of it when they are not. There is no more sense in publishing it as a part of the platform than to say that a bill that was introduced in Congress and never passed, is a law on our statute books—the free coinage bill, for instance.

HONEST JOHN SHERMAN.

Thirty years ago Senator Sherman, of Ohio, was nominated for Congress. He was so poor that he had to mortgage his home to get funds to carry on his campaign. At five thousand a year his salary for thirty years would amount to only \$150,000. But his check is good for several millions anywhere. Now it takes a good deal of economy to raise, educate, feed, clothe a family in 30 years an \$150,000 and save several million dollars out of it. "honest John" says "you can't legislate money into a man's pocket." Sherman is not the only poor fellow who has become rich in this way. That is the reason legislation is all against the masses.

GREAT PROSPERITY.

Georgia is the empire State of the South. Texas is a powerful competitor for the banner. What is the situation? Destitution in both town and country. In both States within the past ten days "relief committees" have been organized. Right in Atlanta, where money is supposed to be plenty, where "prosperity" is sung by every editor, there is great destitution. What does this all mean? Simply that the few are draining the many. This is the beginning; what shall the end be? Unless the conditions are quickly changed, revolution will follow. There is no alternative. But still we hope that there is a way out.

The Texas call for relief says 15,000 or 20,000 are starving, while the remainder of the population barely have a sufficiency of food for present needs. "Great prosperity" indeed.

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HUMBUGGING THE PEOPLE.

The Wilmington Star is certain that the Alliance leaders are trying to humbug the people of North Carolina by rushing them into a third party.

Humbugging is common among politicians. They have humbugged the people of the United States for 25 years by promising what they never do and by putting in their platforms measures that are never made into law. The Republican party has been very shrewdly managed. With the aid of the government patronage, by making a disgraceful deal with bankers, manufacturers and railroad kings; by buying friends, in dealing out pension money, this gigantic humbug has been able to keep up a respectable appearance and hold a good many honest voters in its ranks. But it never has had an issue. It has made but few promises and done nothing for the masses.

Eight years ago the Democratic party gained some headway—a President was elected. They had a majority of Congress. Instead of carrying out their promises they set about to dodge everything, hoping to carry another election. But this was a failure. A good many people who voted Democratic the previous election saw that the promises were not carried out. Two years ago the Democratic party practically swept the country, gaining in the Senate and having an overwhelming majority in the House. Just after the election the prospects for a complete sweep of the country from President down were brighter than any party has had since the Republic was established. Alliancemen, non-Allycemen—in fact everybody thought they saw a way out. They said, "certainly the Democratic party will not fail to keep its pledges now. The leaders see what is needed and what will make the party successful." What is the record? Absolutely nothing done. The nine Third party Congressmen have stood with the Democrats on most measures. From ten to twenty Republicans have been with them on most matters of reform. Yet with a big majority (148) on a strict party vote and the aid of outsiders they have only managed to come to a tie vote on a very important and just measure—free silver coinage. In addition to this enough Democrats have aided the Republicans in years gone by to foist on us the national banking system, unjust tariff laws, pensions, land steals, outrageous appropriations—everything that has brought the country to the verge of ruin. The present Democratic House started out with enough appropriation bills to make it as obnoxious as the famous "billion dollar Congress." But we believe sentiment has been expressed so freely against it that it has stopped. The Democratic leaders know that they had a chance this last winter to prove that it is "a party of the people." They know that if they had kept their promises there would have been no talk of a Third party. In the place of all this they defied the will of the masses.

What we have recounted against both parties is not humbuggery. It is infernal rascality. The time has come when the people must take charge of one or the other of the parties or form a new one. As to which they do we have no suggestions to make. But we beg them to go slow, be conservative and adopt the best policy they can to accomplish the objects. Remember that the name of the party is immaterial. The policy that is best in one locality may not do in another. But every section must be changed for the better. Above all things don't be led off by men who are incapable. Be sure you are right and then go ahead.

DON'T BE BULLDOZED.

At many of your primaries you will find certain men who will try to bulldoze members of the Alliance and prevent them from taking part in the meetings. These are the same fellows who were awhile back so terribly frightened about the Third party. They declared that if the members of the Alliance went into the Third party that the State would be lost, and that the country would go to the devil. Now they have gotten afraid that the Alliancemen will go into the primaries and control them, so they are trying to find some way to keep them out. They are trying to lay down strictures and qualifications to irritate the members of the Alliance so that they will put out a Third party ticket and not go into the primaries. By these methods they hope to be able to divide the Alliance and beat it in the conventions, and probably at the polls. This is a very shrewd game, but it will not work. The members of the Alliance are too smart to be caught or fooled by such tricks. The majority of the members of the Alliance having decided to go into the primaries, all will go into them and no township or executive committee can bulldoze them or keep them out. If the committees commence the bulldozing game and trying to rule out certain parties from the primaries, it will

get run over. Every American citizen has a right to go into the primaries of any party, if he does so in good faith; that is if he intends to stand by the results. Mark it, some of these very men who are trying to keep Alliancemen out of the primaries will be the first men to bolt if things do not go to suit them. We will go into the primaries, and no man living dares to question our motives.

THE COAL COMBINE.

The promoters of the coal combine are still hard at work trying to effect the scheme for robbery by raising the price from 50 cents to \$1 on the ton. The Reading Railroad Company is largely interested in coal mines. It would be vastly benefited. The Pennsylvania Railroad is fighting the Reading Company. The Reading Company is trying to reduce the wages of its employees, but they are organized and will resist to the last.

COL. COOK RAMPANT.

Old man Cook, editor of the Concord Standard, and who is 120 years old, denies the fact that to own people have criticized—"made fun" of farmers. Says he never heard any of it in his town. Col. Cook never heard the gospel preached either, but that is no evidence that it is not preached in thousands of churches every Sunday, some of them being right in Concord.

We never knew any of the Concord people to be guilty of this offense, but that is no evidence that some of them have not. But we do know that it is a common thing. Col. Cook knows it, too.

FOR SELFISH PURPOSES.

A number of politicians and papers are trying to make it appear that President Butler's object is to get himself nominated at the next State Convention for some office on the State ticket. They are simply judging Bro. Butler by themselves. They know that they would not do the work that he is doing unless it was from selfish motives, so they think that only personal and selfish motives prompt him. But there they slip up, for he is not that kind of a man. He is making a fight for humanity and common justice, as every true patriot should. No, Bro. Butler is not a candidate for any office. And we have heard him say that he not only was not a candidate for any office, but that if the State Convention offered him a place on the ticket, that he would decline it.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

Bro. H. E. Hodges, of Mincola, Beaufort county, writes that there are a number of subscribers to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER at that office, but they have not received a copy in three weeks. He also says that hundreds of sample copies of both Democratic and Republican papers are being scattered over the country. We have news of this sort from various sections of the State.

Now THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER pays its postage bills promptly. It pays the Postoffice Department five times as much postage as any other paper in the State. Yet sworn Democratic and Republican postmasters are guilty of criminal neglect in forwarding the paper. We hope soon to have enough evidence to land some of these rascals in Albany penitentiary.

YOUR ANSWER.

The Wilmington Star of the 22d admits that the "calamity howlers" are correct. It goes on to enumerate the many things that they howl about, but blames the Republican party with being responsible for most of the bad things. That is partly true and partly not true. Some of the bad laws were made with the aid of Democrats, and not a few could have been changed long ago if the Democratic party had stuck to its text. The Cleveland administration disgusted a good many people.

Among other things the Star mentions the demonetization of silver, in 1873, says it was done by the Republicans. We admit that. But only the other day the House, with a clear Democratic majority of 148, aided by 15 Republicans, voted to remonetize it and the vote was a tie, consequently the bill is now dead.

Now which is the meanest trick of the two? A Republican House, aided by a few Democrats, demonetized silver in 1873. A Democratic House refused to remonetize it in 1892, notwithstanding nearly every Democratic platform had declared in favor of it since 1873, and the people had been protesting vigorously all the time. One party mean enough to pass bad laws, the other too mean to repeal them. Which is the meanest?

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HYPOCRISY, RANK AND VILE.

The Deadly Parallel.

Resolution of St. Louis Convention.
"We demand that the Government issue legal tender notes, and pay Union soldiers the difference between the price of depreciated money, in which he was paid, and gold."

The Democratic press has been vehement in violent denunciation of the St. Louis pension resolution. Indeed, to read their philippics and to hear such men as Maj. Robbins and others in their savage assaults, one would conclude that the Democratic party would suffer crucifixion before it would ever endorse "such an outrageous measure." Let the reader analyze the two parallel propositions above and try to discover the difference between them. There is no difference in their meaning. They are essentially the same thing. But there is a difference, vast and wide, in the form and force of expression. The resolution of the St. Louis Convention is simply the expression of individual opinion and is binding on no one. The other is the plain expression of principle and is the fifth plank in the Democratic platform, adopted and announced as a part of the platform, and was, therefore, binding on the whole democracy to vote for and support it, as it did do throughout the campaign of 1868, all over the country. Was there ever such blatant and disgusting hypocrisy? And yet these loud-mouthed demagogues profess not to understand why it is that the honest people of the country have lost all confidence in them. Let the friends of reform clip out that fifth plank of the Democratic platform and read it to the next demagogue he hears ranting about the St. Louis resolution, and ask him to close his mouth. Ask him if he still stands on the Democratic platform. If his party was right in 1868, ask him if it is not right to stand by it now. The biggest fools in the country to day are those politicians who think the people are fools. Remember that the Democratic party, in its national convention, July 4th, 1868, adopted as a part of its platform the pension measure which they falsely assert is a part of the St. Louis platform.

HE CAN LEAVE.

A Raleigh man remarked the other day that "it would take the government a thousand years to pay for the railroads," and stated further that if it was undertaken that he wouldn't live in the country.

It hasn't been more than sixty-five years since the first railroad was built in this world. If the people (the government) can pay for them in sixty-five years it can buy them and pay for them in sixty-five years again. So you see this smart man is not so smart. But the beauty of the business is that the man who said this could easily go to some other part of the world and not be missed here. But as the government owns the railroads in all other countries, he would have some trouble about finding a place of rest. See?

SEE HOW IT IS.

"Weavers' and warpers' wages at Northampton, Mass., have been reduced 15 per cent."

The above is a dispatch gathered from one of our exchanges, which gave it as a simple item of news, and we copy it that our readers may see what is going on. If the truth could be known you would doubtless find that about the same time these wages were reduced their rents were made higher, and investigation a little further might reveal the fact that the tenement houses occupied by these same producers of capital were owned by the plutocrats who own the factories in which these oppressed weavers and warpers work. A natural result of our present financial system.

The object of this reduction is to raise campaign boodle. The laborers in factories are bled to perpetuate our present financial and protective system. When the campaign is over the owners of the factories will fill both pockets again.

OUR DUTY TO ACT.

The members of the Alliance all over the State are practically a unit for our demands. Yes, we are a unit for the principles of the platform, but unity of thought amounts to nothing without unity of action. Therefore we must act as a unit in getting our principles enacted into law. Without unity we accomplish nothing; with unity, we are invincible. Then in what way shall we act? By what method of action shall we secure these reforms? In short, in what way should every true reformer act? Beyond any question, it is our duty to follow the plan that is the surest, quickest and best way to secure our reforms. Who is to decide which is the surest, quickest and best way to win? The majority of those who favor reform. A majority of the counties have already decided that it

was best to go into the primaries and send delegates to the State Convention, May 18th. Therefore we all should do the same thing. Let our individual opinion about which is the best way be whatever it may, it is now our duty to go the way the majority has decided is the best. We must act in unity, and the only way we can is to act in every case with the majority. In all things essential unity. Yes, let every man go into the primaries; the battle will be fought there. If you stay out, you are defeating the cause of reform.

IMPORTANCE OF FREE SILVER.

Within the past three years twenty-nine Democratic State platforms have demanded the free and unlimited coinage of silver. So, over half of the States have declared in favor of it. The United States had by last census 62,262,250 inhabitants. These twenty-nine States have a population of 37,999,186—more than three-fifths of the entire population. The remaining States, having a population of only 24,623,006, are divided on the question. This makes it plain that at least two-thirds of the people in the United States are in favor of free coinage. Yet, after a 13th, all these pledges, the Democratic House, with a clear majority of 148 members, aided by 15 Republican and nine People's party men, came to a tie vote on the bill. The Kinston Free Press and other people who are blowing about the great honesty of the party leaders and representatives, can find food for thought in this that will last them a month if they digest it.

JOHNNY, GET YOUR GUN.

Somebody at Warsaw has been giving the Wilmington Messenger some advice and warning. The Messenger goes into him with gloves off, as follows:

"Our correspondent assures us that unless the real Democrats follow the Alliance will the wisps that they will be 'sure to get smothered.' What does that mean? This only: that the intelligence of the party—the men of experience, of political knowledge, of real ability, must abandon their life-long convictions and principles and bow down and worship the brazen idol set up in the St. Louis temple. It means that a party which dates from the Convention that framed the Constitution and has been its chief defender ever since—a party that has illustrated so many noble virtues, has been so faithful to the people in war and in peace, in prosperity and calamity, in victory and defeat—a party that has resisted the encroachments of tyranny and the usurpations of the Republican party with an unflinching energy and a defiant spirit and a hardy courage—that this noble party coeval with the government, and the only constitutional party in the Union, shall disband, surrender, grovel in the dirt, and putting on the collar of the St. Louis demagogues, fanatics, firebrands and ignoramuses, shall accept their foolish and unreasonable demands, worship at their shrine, sing their songs of nihilistic import and throw conscience and the past to the winds."

Now that is a pretty way for a gentleman to talk about other gentlemen. The editor of the Messenger may not be rich. But he has lived in North Carolina all these years. He didn't live on empty oyster cans nor husks of corn, either. He has fared sumptuously, yet he would smite the hand that feeds him. The men that hold the plow, push the plane, swing the hammer have no intelligence. They are "demagogues," "fanatics," "firebrands" and "ignoramuses." How far back would we have to go to find the ancestors of the great, enlightened Kingsbury plowing, with hayseeds in their hair? Yet he would have us believe that since he got an LL. D. backed to his name and after some experience in a newspaper office, he and his associates know all things. They are the people. Thomas Jefferson, J. C. Calhoun, Salmon Chase, Andrew Jackson, Abraham Lincoln and dozens of other statesmen, who had brains almost as large as the whole carcass of some of these diminutive editors and politicians of this day and time, were in error if such men as the editor of the Messenger are to be believed. The principles and ways and means that they advocated, the Messenger says, are "unreasonable" and of nihilistic import, and throw conscience and the past to the winds."

We rise and make our best bow and reassert that there is as much brains in the heads of Alliancemen as there is in the heads of politicians. Alliancemen may not know all the mean tricks, but they do know that there is no good reason why farm products should be lower than cost of production. They know that there is no need of making millions of paupers to make a few thousand millionaires. They know that they have worked hard. They know that neither of the political parties have made a united effort to remedy these conditions. Now deny it if you please.

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